



Aboriginal Education, Sooke School District No. 62 Parent/Guardian Consent Form 2015/16

To Parents and/or Guardians:

Sooke School District No. 62 Aboriginal Education Department provides a variety of services to enhance Aboriginal Student classroom learning. Services and funding are provided by the Ministry of Education and School District level to enhance inclusive academic and cultural learning in schools.

The School Registration Form allows for **self-identification** of Aboriginal Ancestry which provides the opportunity for Aboriginal Education Services. This Consent Form explains many of the services available to students of Aboriginal Ancestry. Please read both pages to learn about some of the cultural and support services provided.



1) Please remember to check the Aboriginal Ancestry box on the School Registration Form.

Self identification requires 'no' paperwork or photocopies of Aboriginal Ancestry: First Nations (status or non-status), Métis, or Inuit.

Aboriginal Education Parent/Guardian Consent

2) Please read both pages, sign below & return to the school:

Yes, I would like the in-class cultural/academic support services for my child/children.

* Child's or children's names: _____

* Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Parents and/or Guardians:

If you do **NOT** wish for your child to be involved in any of the Aboriginal programs listed in this form, we require a written letter from you requesting that your child/children not participate. Please forward your letter to your child's school's office.

Aboriginal Education District Events—All Welcome

The Aboriginal Education Department hosts district level events. Locations to be announced in the Fall.

Family Fall Gathering

Date: Sept. 30, 2015

Time: 5:00pm to 8:00 pm

Celebrating Student Success

Date: Feb. 24, 2016

Time: 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Recognition Graduation Ceremony

Date: May 28, 2016

Time: 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Examples of services:

Aboriginal Literacy Teacher

Some schools receive cultural and academic instruction by an itinerant teacher in the area of literacy and connecting Aboriginal content to classroom learning. All services are provided directly in classrooms.

Aboriginal Education Support Worker (A.E.S.W.)

All schools have an Aboriginal Education Support Worker who **assists students directly in the classroom**, providing academic support and/or cultural opportunities.

Aboriginal Education Cultural Resources

Aboriginal Education provides schools with a wide variety of Aboriginal Resources including picture books, novels, lesson plans, history books, ethnobotany and science units, DVD's, and various kits to support classroom learning. There are Aboriginal content resources available that match the revised curriculum from early learning to secondary levels.

Aboriginal Education Role Models

The Aboriginal Education Department staff assist schools in coordinating Coast Salish, Nuu-chan-nulth, First Nations, Métis and Aboriginal Role Models for classroom sessions that support curriculum and local history and culture. Each school has a 'Role Model' binder.

Several additional opportunities may be offered throughout the district, including a 'Pit Cook' series; a CENENITEL Aboriginal Awareness Series - Elementary; 'MetoWe' Sacred Circle - Middle; Métis Nation Greater Victoria Elementary and Secondary series; Elder Language Programs — Elementary; and a Read Aloud Grade One/Two Program.

Aboriginal Education Department Newsletter

The Aboriginal Education Department circulates seasonal newsletters updating families on department and school news. The newsletter features examples of students' artwork, creative writing, and more.

Aboriginal Education Enhancement Agreement

*The following **Goals** were developed to assist schools to raise the profile of Aboriginal Education for all students:*

Sense of Belonging: To increase Aboriginal students' sense of place, belonging and caring.

Aboriginal Ways of Knowing: To increase awareness and understanding of Aboriginal ways of knowing in both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students.

Language: To increase knowledge of Aboriginal languages by Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students.

Achievement: To enhance the achievement and success of Aboriginal students from Kindergarten to Grade 12 in academics as well as training for trades and life skills.

School District No. 62 has completed Year Five of the Aboriginal Education Agreement. The new Agreement will create new goals through input from schools and community 2015—2016.

Web-site: <http://www.sd62.bc.ca/Programs/AboriginalEducation.aspx>